WESTERN

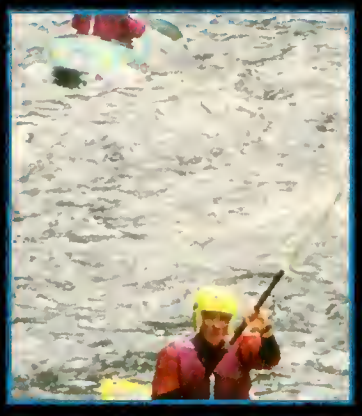
LIBRARY OF THE MOUNT 2005

It is...

Western Carolina University
Cullowhee, NC 28723

The Catamount
Volume 71

Anticipation



Opportunity

Commitment

Dear Fellow Catamount,

This school year has been one of the most momentous times in the history of Western Carolina University. It has been a transformational year for the Western community as our student body reached its highest number ever, and as our campus continued to emerge in the form of new and renovated facilities.

While all of these changes are exciting, it also has given me great pleasure to watch you and your fellow students perform with distinction in the classroom and excel in your extracurricular and sports activities. I thank you for the role you played in making this a great year in Cullowhee!

I'm glad you will have this yearbook to keep as a reminder of your time at Western. I know that as the years go by you will pick up this book from time to time and the myriad of memories that the college years entail will come back to you. I trust that you will remember not only the tough classes and difficult exams, but also the meaningful personal relationships that you enjoyed with friends, members of our faculty and staff, and citizens in the local community.

Whether you are completing your freshman year or are about to graduate, remember that once you are a Catamount, you will always be a Catamount. You are one of us and we will be a part of you forever. You will always be at home here.

Sincerely,

John W. Bardo
Chancellor
Western Carolina University

1. Onlookers inspect the proposed campus plan for the Millennial Initiative. This plan has begun with the purchase of 344 acres of land adjacent to the main campus, on the opposite side of Highway 107. The land will be developed into a multi-use neighborhood that will combine academic buildings, research facilities, housing and business industry. Western is now in the beginning phases of a comprehensive master plan. 2. Millennial Initiative supporters inspect the timeline, showing the history of Western Carolina University. 3. Congressman Charles Taylor and Cliffton Metcalf discuss and compare the main campus to what will soon be added across Highway 107.

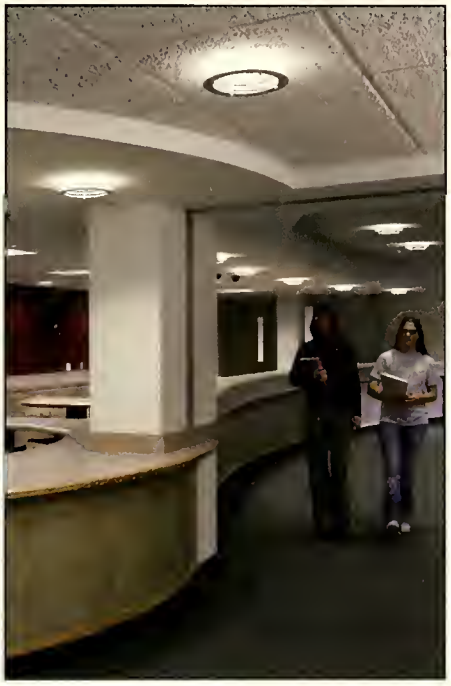
Our Catamount athletic teams finally get their chance to shine in the newly built Track & Field complex which was open for the 2005 season. The field house is expected to be completed in Fall 2005.

A Work In Progress

Western is continually on the road to future development trying to accomodate the needs of a constantly growing campus. One of the year's highlights was the ribbon cutting ceremony on January 12 at the opening of the A.K. Hinds University Center expansion. A connection between the past and present, this is now a place where students, faculty, and staff alike can come together. Preceding the ceremony was the opening of the Greek Village December 9. This housing complex was made for many of the universities fraternities and sororities but also established to expand the social horizons of campus life. In addition to this housing complex, WCU opened the 300 bedroom residence hall Central Drive which is setting the standard for the new living areas to come. On March 8, 2004, 150 people gathered to witness the grand opening of the Fine and Performing Arts Center. This facility was designed to cultivate students creativity and interest in the arts and humanities.The buck does not stop here! This is only the beginning of a bright future of progress and evolution of our university.

"Oh great, more walking!" another inconvenience, Forest Hills road block leads students on another detour.

The development of the Killian Annex is running smoothly with the debut of the One Stop where students can handle all of their financial aid and registration needs all at once. Bottom: The new Norton Hall is in the beginning stages and due to be open in August 2005.



Community

Above: Cords, cords and cords. Setting up a new computer is not always an easy task. It's always nice to have parents ready and available on move-in day to help with any last minute problems when IT Services is not available. Right: Central Drive was the home to 300 men and women as Western opened the doors to one of the new residence halls in the fall of 2004. This up to date residence hall attracts many students because of its' "suite style living" and approximately 70% of the students have single rooms. There are two and four bedroom suites and each room has a private bath.

Home Catamounts

Many Western students had to outlast the rain and storms on August 21, 2004 when freshmen were allowed to move into their new homes. Many upperclassmen students, faculty and staff were on hand to help out new students and their families in unpacking cars, carrying luggage and lofts up the stairs, or making sure that traffic was moving smoothly while dropping off boxes.

Day ZERO

Each year the day before classes begin, the welcome back celebration, Valley Ballyhoo takes place on the lawn of the AK Hinds University Center. It is a time for food, "yard toys," games, live music, and tons of fun. Whether it's dunking Dr. Caruso, Vice-Chancellor of Student Affairs, in the dunking booth or just going by tables to pick up all of the free samples and information, this day is fun for kids of all ages! There were huge inflatable slides to go down, electronic bulls to be ridden and people to meet.

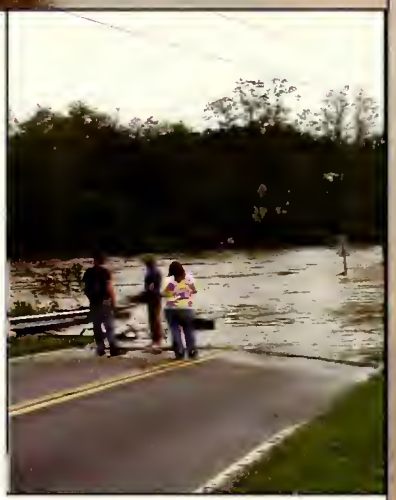
Above: Chris Thile and Sean Watkins bring their "newgrass" flavor to Cullowhee in an amazing show by Nickel Creek at the Ramsey Regional Activity Center. Accompanied by Watkins' sister Sara, the trio brought down the house with their traditional sound of mountain bluegrass mixed with a high energy pop sound that has found audience world-wide.

Western was paid a special visit by renound Dr. Patch Adams, made more famous by the movie, named after the Doctor, in which Robin Williams played the title role. Adams' discussion with students was centered around the art of love and the compassion of the human condition.

Special

Exhibitions

Hurricane Ivan struck the mountains of western North Carolina September of 2004, bringing with him high winds, and flooding to the low-lying river valleys and creek beds. Right: Cullowhee Creek userps her banks and covers what used to be the drving range. Local residents survey damage to roads and homes. The hurricane damage brough the community together in a way never before imagines with thousands of dollars in food and supplies contributed by students, faculty, and staff.

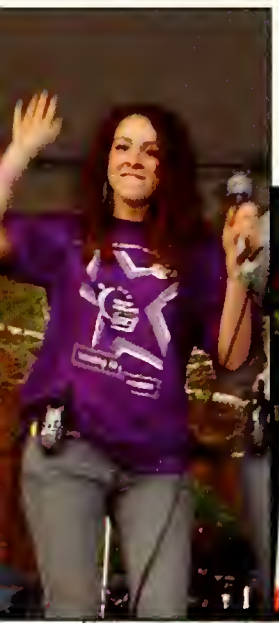


Hurricane IVAN

PLANTING hope

The Western Carolina University campus paused Monday, May 2, to plant a Cherokee chief dogwood tree on a hillside overlooking Brown Cafeteria in honor of the memories of four students who died during the past year. The tree is in memory of Aaron Joel Esteppe, Misty Dawn France, Annie Ripley Gehring, and Eric Rozier.

Walking for a CURE



Cool temperatures and downpours of rain did not hold up hundreds of Western Carolina students, faculty, staff as well as the Jackson County community in Western Carolina's annual Relay for Life. Relay for Life is a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society and took place on Friday, April 8 at 7pm until Saturday, April 9 at 7am. The Western community raised close to $15,000 for cancer research at this event. The president of WCU's Relay for Life commented, "It was wonderful. Despite the rain, the teams really kept the event fun and full of spirit. I am just so impressed with how well we have grown over the past few events and hope that next year's event will be even bigger!"

Roll
517
Nantahala Outdoor Center
517

River

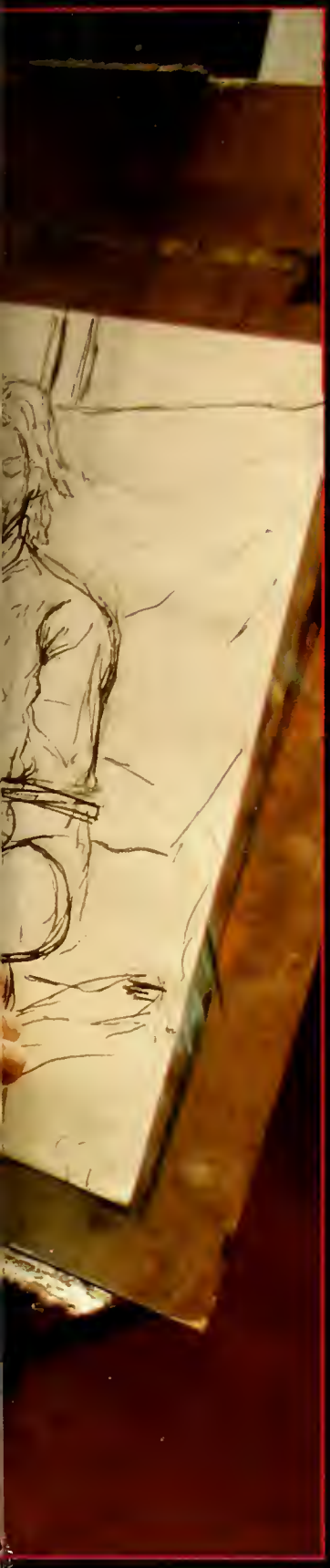
The Tuckaseegee River Clean-Up is a campus wide event sponsored by Base Camp Cullowhee each year. On April 16, 2005 over 500 students, faculty and community members met on the U.C. Lawn to register and take part in this annual event. Volunteers were used in every aspect. Students rafted down the river and picked up trash while others walked along the river bank. The Tuckaseegee River is the most widely used river in western North Carolina for recreation and the trash items that are collected by the river over the year are abundant. Volunteers found everything from barrels to mattresses as well as clothing items and aluminum cans.

WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY

Around the WORLD

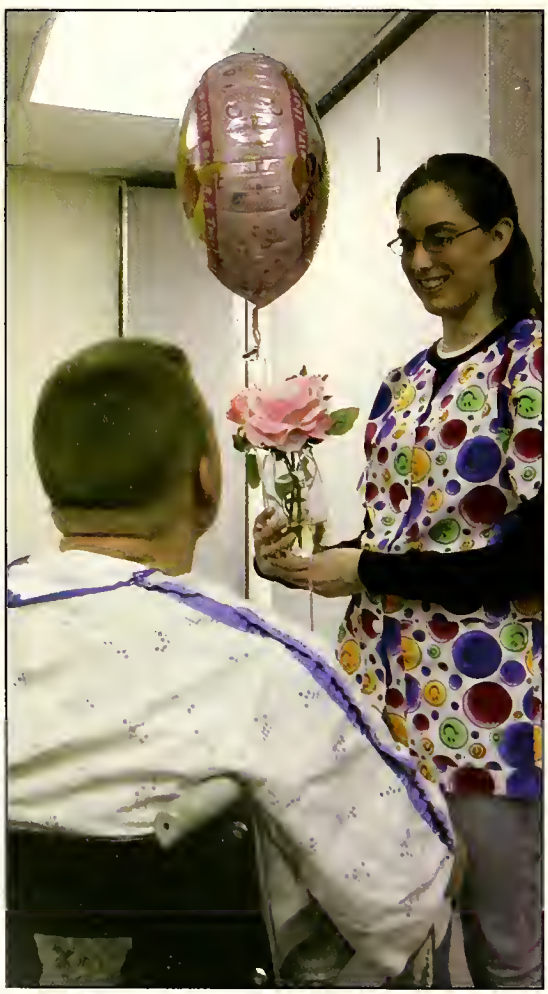
The 2005 Annual International Festival took place on April 13 on the University Center Lawn celebrating its 26th anniversary. WCU works very closely with international students and local businesses to bring true multiculturalism to the university and our surrounding areas. The festival has a variety of activities for not only Western students, but younger students of our community as well, including live music and foods from a wide array of cultures around the world.

Scholarship



MAX
MAX

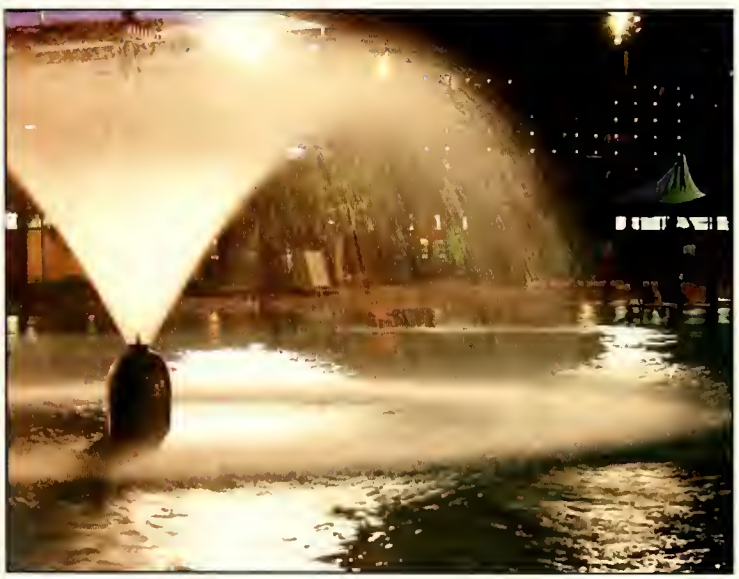
The Service Learning Department is a department of the Division of Student Affairs and is an asset to each student at Western Carolina University. Service Learning allows students to have hands on experience working in the Western Carolina community with their peers and their professors, as well as the administration at Western Carolina University. Glen Bowen, Director of Service Learning, works one on one with students to plan and administrate service projects such as Big Brother/ Big Sister, Cullowhee Valley After School Tutoring, Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Golden Age Senior Center, Project C.A.R.E, and many others in the area. The Service Learning Department also awards five $1,000 scholarships each year.



taking a LOOK at the WORLD

"I believe that doing study abroad while one is in college is almost essential. As an American we are kind of stuck in this little "bubble." We very rarely know about the world around us because some of us are too caught up in their political views to care. Our material possessions and social ring seems to characterize who we are instead of the places we have had the chance to visit or the people we have helped out in time of need. Mother Theresa put this into a different perspective saying, that "It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving." Boy was she right."

Liz Gotee, study abroad Australia



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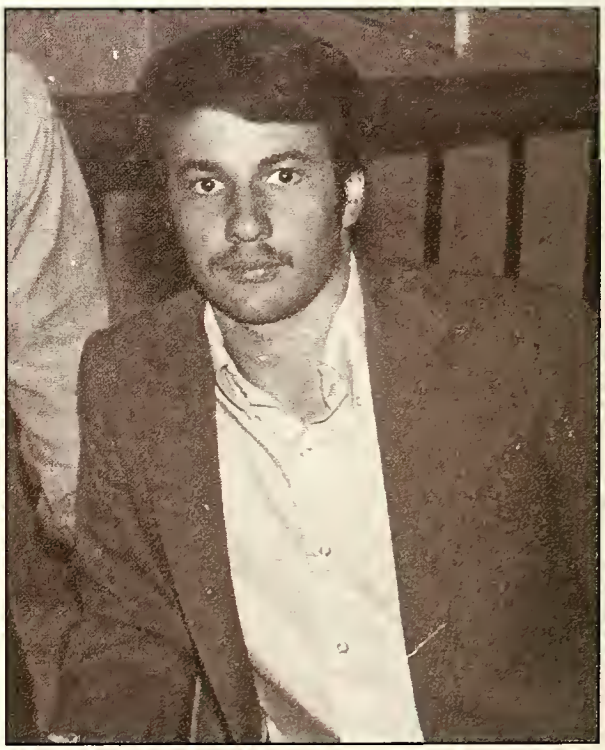
Service Learning

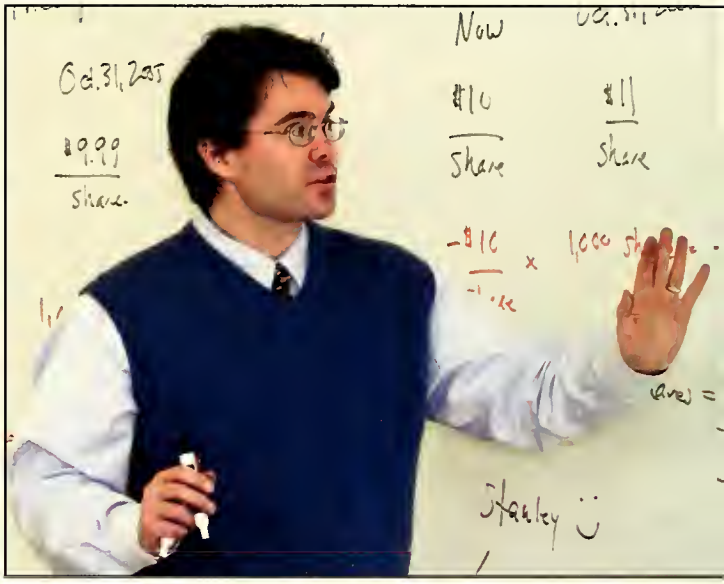
This dedication was one of the easiest decisions tha we made as a staff this year. We chose a man who i a graduate of W. C. U., married a graduate of W. C U., and now both work for W. C. U. His name Mr. Mark Haskett. The job that everyone want when they hear "yearbook" is photographer. This the job that garners the most attention but probabl creates the most demanding workload. We woul not have been able to publish this book withou great assistance from Mark. It has been a pleasur to work with Mr. Haskett this year one that th entire staff can look back on and feel relieved tha he has been so gracious and kind in finding whateve picture we needed. The majority of the pictures i this book are the work of Mark Haskett and w would like to thank him from the bottom of ou hearts.

2004-2005 Catamount Dedication
Mr. Mark Haskett



Dr. Will Peebles, Department of Music

Dr. John Murphy, Department of Mathematics



Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award

Dr. Laura Cruz; Deptarment of History

Dr. Millicent Abel, Department of Psychology

Dr. Don Livingston, Department of Political Science and Public Affairs.

Coke
Россия

Diversity

Student Government Association

Those who must be thanked:

Webshots.com (we must thank those of our friends who donated pictures to the yearbook, whether you knew it or not!)

thefacebook.com

Julie Walters Steele, our fearless advisor who rose into the face of adversity and stood beside us. Many, many thanks!

For their generous support:

The Cullowhee Cafe. Located on the back side of campus heading back toward Sylva on Old Cullowhee Rd. This is a must for all Western students.

Sylva Barber Shop. Ask for Vance. He does a great job.

Heather & Balala; our alumnae, please don't forget us when you make your millions.

Miss W.C.U. is a pageant put on by Student Governmer each spring. The money raised from the pageant went int a fund for a Student Government foundation scholarhshi The contestants in this years pageant oohd and ahhd th audience in a talent competition, evening wear and question and answer session. The contestants were: Holl Wilson, Margaret Putman, Melanie Galiers, and Michael Layman. Below: The four contestants after Miss Michael Layman was crowning Miss W.C.U. 2005. Right: 200 Miss W.C.U. Michaela Layman with 2004 winner, Mis Sheena Aaron. Bottom Right: Michaela Layman, Mis W.C.U. 2005.

Miss W.C.U.

Michaela Layman

Freshmen Leadership Institute

Western Carolina was excited to debut the Freshmen Leadership Institute, housed in The Village this year. The freshmen chosen for this leadership opportunity went through an application process during their freshmen orientation the summer before beginnning their career at Western. Each student was required to go through an application and interview process with representatives from the student body as well as administration in the Student Affairs division. There were three Freshmen Leadership houses that were the homes to 19 freshmen males and 38 females. The students took a one hour seminar class each semester that educated them on leadership and followership and the importance of being an active student on campus. "The biggest realization for me was coming to realize that you don't have to be the president of a club or hold an official position of an organization to be a leader," replied Freshmen Leadership member Margaret Putman. The freshmen students who chose to continue in the Sophomore Leadership Institute will be the future mentors of the incoming Freshmen Leadership class.

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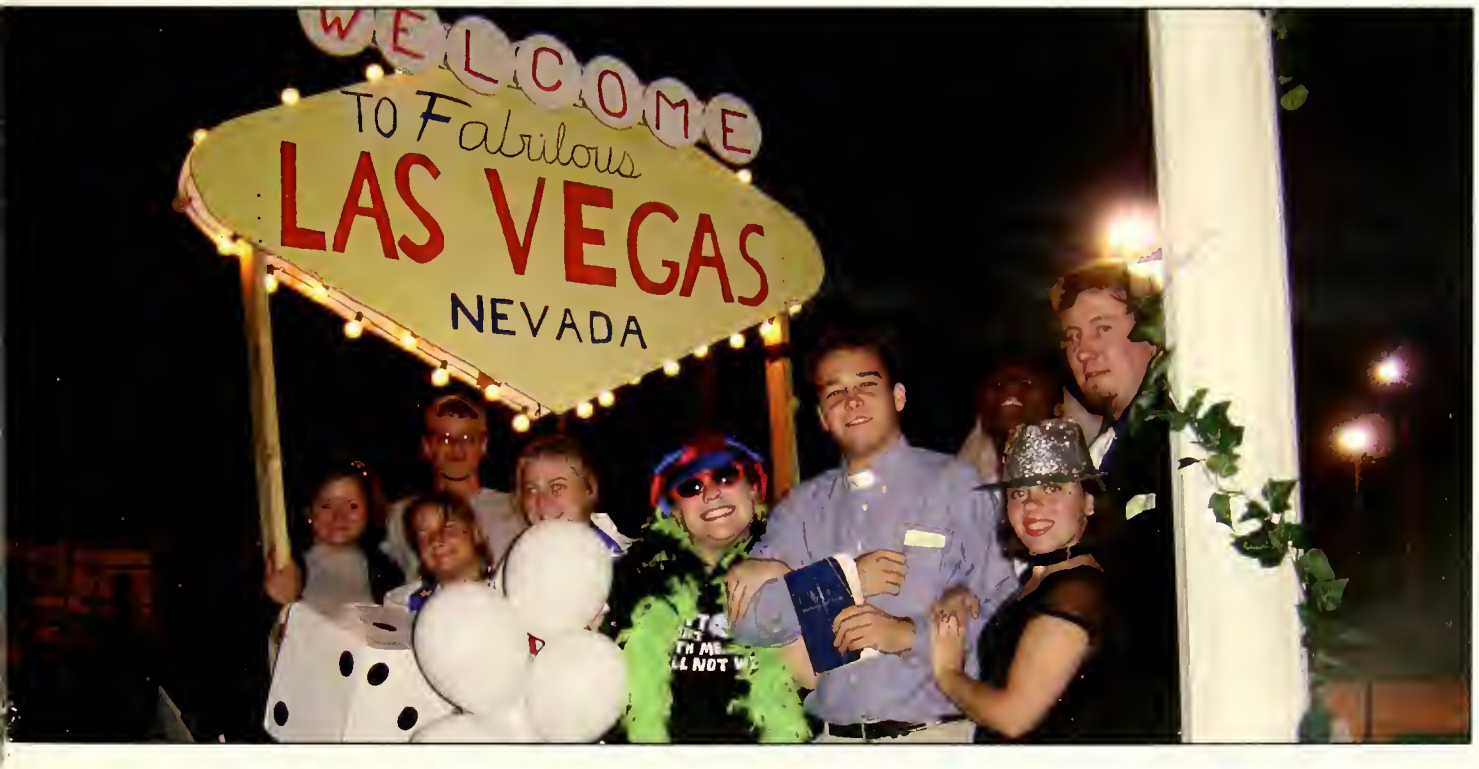
Last Minute Productions

Last Minute Productions (LMP) is your student entertainment connection. Their mission is to provide the Western Carolina University community with programs of a social, cultural, educational, and recreational nature.The programs are coordinated and produced by students. LMP consists of two divisions. The Programming division is composed of four committees (Films, Music, Campus Issues, & Special Events) that determine what events to bring to campus. The Marketing division advertises all of the events by using a variety of techniques. The offices of LMP are located on the second floor of the A.K. Hinds University Center.



Butterfinger
Tootsie Roll
Tootsie Roll
Tootsie Roll

Sterilite
CHAMP
M&M's
Tootsie Roll

PLEASE MAKE SURE THE VALVE IS TURNED OFF AFTER EACH USE OF THE TANK.
THANKS,
THE MANAGEMENT
ColorPlace

EXIT

Right Hand **RED**, Left Foot **BLUE**!

Base Camp Cullowhee

Base Camp Cullowhee aims to offer the finest comprehensive outdoor recreational & educational programs and rental operation in the Southeast. We do this by offering students, faculty, and staff opportunities to challenge themselves in an outdoor setting, while promoting environmental ethics and stewardship.

Students have an opportunity to develop leadership and technical skills related to all types of outdoor adventures, as well as an opportunity to work for Base Camp Cullowhee in the rental shop. We feel that the student-led aspect of our trips is critical to the development of soft skills, critical thinking skills, leadership, and judgment for those that plan to go into the outdoor education/recreation field after graduation.

Located on the first floor of the University Center, Base Camp Cullowhee is one the most popular stops on Campus. They are responsible for organizing the annual Tuckaseegee River Cleanup, Fall and Spring Break trips, and many other activities throughout the year.

W
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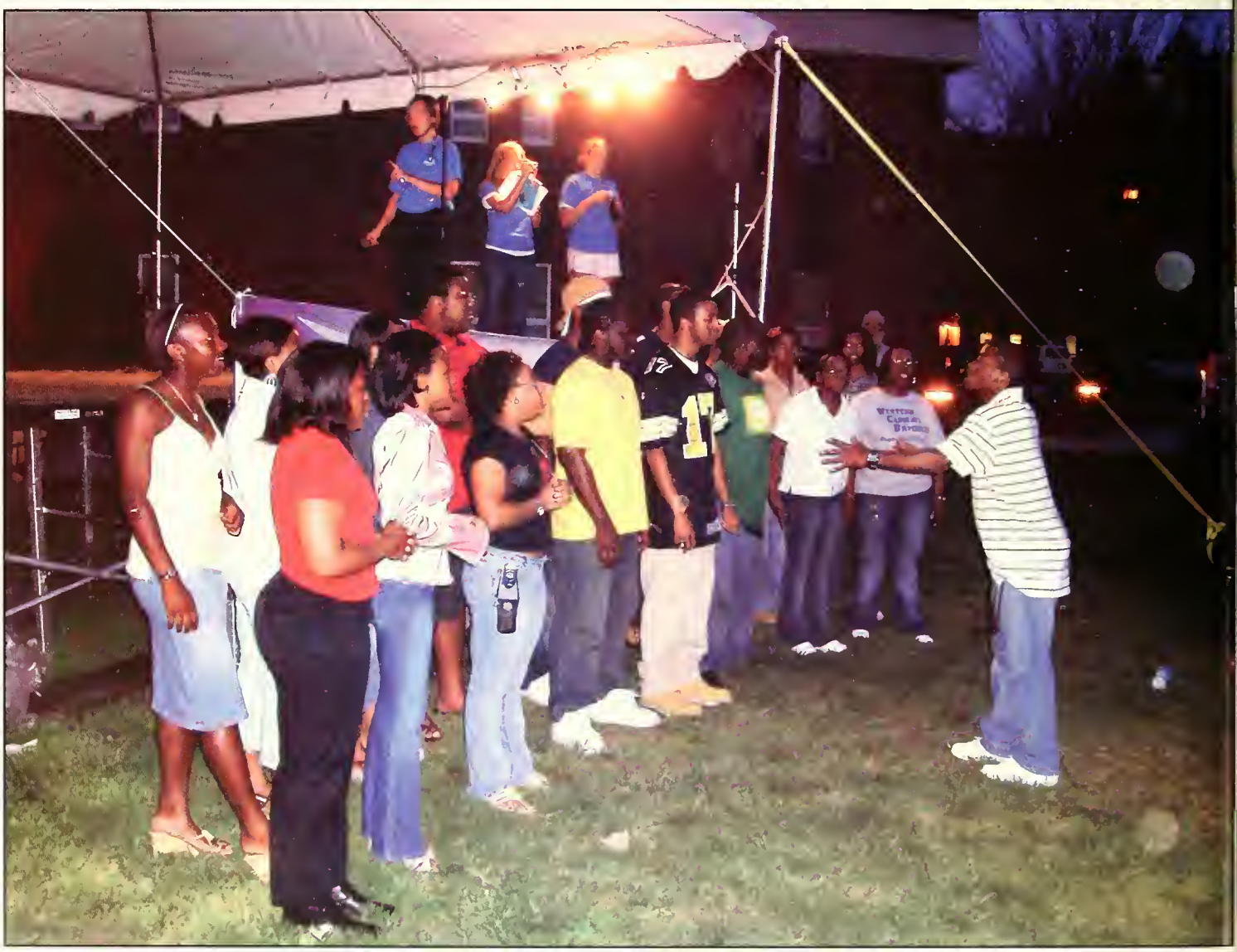
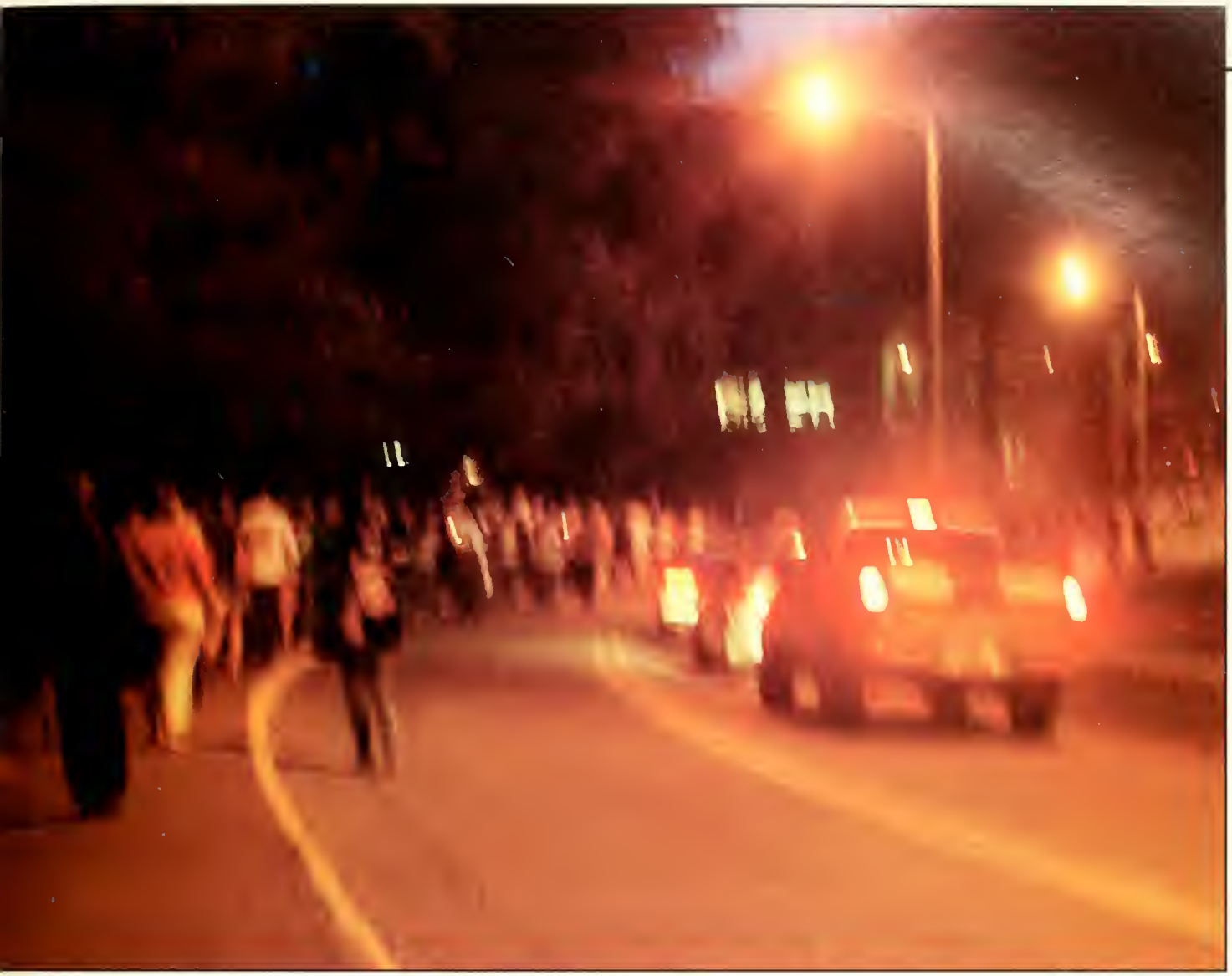
RESERVED

The Women's Center

The Women's Center at Western Carolina University exists for, through, and because of all women in the campus community; however this center is not just for females. The Women's Center supports and sponsors Real MEN for Men Encouraging Non-violence. Real MEN use their strength to stand up to sexist behavior, use their integrity as an example to others and treat women with the utmost respect. The Women's Center also is a main part of WISE Women, standing for Western's Initiative for the Support and Empowerment of Women. WISE Women is a leadership and advocacy group developed to provide a safe and inviting environment to all people so that they are free to affirm and celebrate each others differences. WISE Women want both sexes to support each other and both to become aware of the issues that are taking place among both gender boundaries. The Women's Center also sponsors w0--eekly events, speakers and lectures during the semester. Highlights of the 2004-2005 year were: Dr. Mark Benn, presenting Mirror, Mirro, a discussion on prejudice; The Vagina Monologues, Sexual Responsibility Week, International Women's Day, Women Inspiring Hope and Possibility, The Clothesline Project and aTake Back the Night rally. Another major event for The Women's Center was the Women's Leadership Conference, held April 12, 2005. This was a day set aside to discuss how women are already becoming prevalent leaders in our society, as well how to make more female leaders. These ideas were presented through keynote speakers, open panels and ample discussion time.

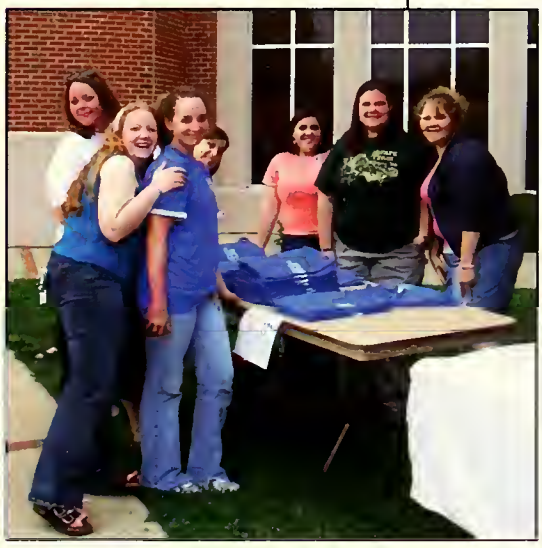




Phi Mu

Sigma Alpha Omega

Equestrian Club



Resident Student Association

Inter-Fraternity Council

Alpha Chi Omega

Alpha Xi Delta

EMS

Alpha Gamma Delta

Campus Rock

Delta Zeta

Student Health Information Management Association

Orientation Counselor's

Each year the Orientation staff at Western Carolina University gears up for another summer of teaching and counseling. The 2005 Freshman orientation staff was no different and they brought with them years of experience, excellence, and enlightenment. The mission of the WCU new student orientation program is to assist new students in their transition to the university. This program will also address the concerns of the student's immediate family support groups-parents, guardians, spouses, significant others and children. Under the leadership of Mr. Randy Wood II, student coordinator, and Mrs. Tammy Haskett, director; the WCU orientation program has become one fo the foremost programs in the state.

a Closer LooK

Interior Design Club

Scott Hall Staff

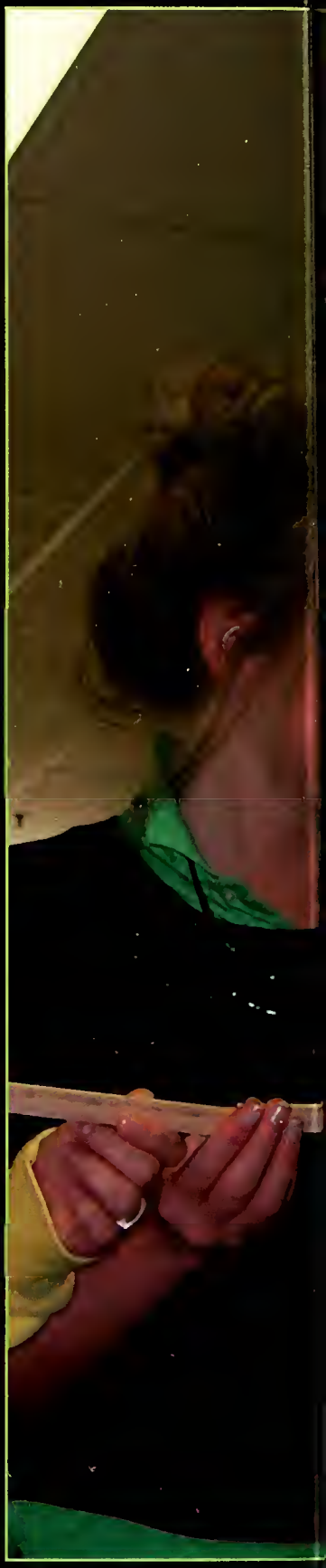
Kappa Sigma

Sigma Chi

Intramurals

From co-ed basketball to co-ed softball, from dodgeball to water polo, the intramural department had something to offer each and every Western student. The Western Carolina Intramural Department works year around in providing fun and healthy athletics events for each type of student. The department works extremely hard in scheduling events and games so that every person has the opportunity to participate, including some Saturday events such as fishing tournaments and kickball matches. Over 100 games and sports are offered each year, including sports during the summer sessions. The Smoky Mountain Conference flag football team won the championship and was sent to an intramural competition across the state, played at UNC Wilmington. After placing there, the team traveled to New Orleans and competed among top schools for a national Intramural title (below). The independent women's overall intramural champions were the Slammers with 2,415 points and the independent men champions were PE Majors (1,450) and MCS (1,750) in the National and American League, respectively. The overall sorority winner was Alpha Xi Delta with 4,690 points and the overall fraternity winner was Sigma Phi Epsilon with 1,820 points.

HOOPERS



Unity

11
Abercrombie

W.C.U. ADVANCE

Formerly known as Greek 101, W.C.U. ADVANCE was a weekend long retreat at Lake Junaluska for the new members of each greek letter organization under Panhellenic Council (CPC), Inter-fraternity Council (IFC), and National Pan-hellenic Council (NPHC). During the weekend of February 4-6, 2005, each new member and three to five older members of each organization traveled to Lake Junaluska for a weekend of learning about what a Greek community should look like as well as how we can improve our community here at Western. The conference was led by Steve Delph and Marna Ward, as well as Western student facilitators (students from each organization). Each new member stayed in the lodge at Lake Junaluska and roomed with a member from another organization. This allowed for the organizations to be split up and the members could have the opportunity to get to know one another on a personal level, not as a member of ănother group." Freshman Brittany Graham, a new member of Phi Mu commented about her experience at W.C.U. ADVANCE by recalling, "This was a great time for us to really get to know each other and it was neat to realize that so many of the organizations stand for the similar values, and we all need to work together to build our Greek community."

A Week of Service

Greek Week 2005 was set up to be focused around service. As the week of April 11-16 rolled around, the Greek Council paired up with the Service Learning department to pair up members of the Greek community with local non-profit organizations. The members of organizations were divided into different days, so about 100 Greek members went to a different location each day. During Greek Week the organizations worked with Project F.I.R.E., chopping firewood for the elderly people in the area; landscaping at REACH, the Jackson County Public Library, landscaping at NCCAT, and Mountain Projects towards Waynesville. On Thursday, the Village Council organized a carwash that was also a part of Greek Week. Over $300 was raised and all of that money went to a local nursing home. The week of service ended on Saturday with Tuckaseegee River clean-up and over 600 hours of community service was completed by the Greek community of Western Carolina University.

DELTA ZETA

JUNIOR
30

Above: The Phi Mu Fraternity attempts to hang on as their pyramid on the launching pad takes a turn for the catastrophic. Senior Jennilynn Williams (yellow shirt) leads the rush to the groud. **Below:** Members of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity compete to be the first to lance a life saver with toothpics. Former Kappa Sig President Todd Rogers remarked, "I never knew Justin's [McConnell] eyes were so blue."

Greek Games

Above & Top Right: The Tug of War is always a popular draw at the Greek Games. The Theta Xi Fraternity make the most of tuggers such as Animal and one, Scuba Steve. Steve can be found above trying to keep his cheecks from exploding.

Right: Former Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity President Sean Clancy is a driving force behind his fraternities exploits.

JOHN D
Deer

Life is good.

THE CATS

Ribs, Ribs, Ribs!

April 15, 2005 was the Spring football game for the 2005-2006 Catamount football team. The University Athletic Department sponsored a rib cook-off to provide more school spirit at the football game. Each Greek organization was allowed to enter the cook-off with the chance of winning a $200 cash prize. The afternoon started with tailgating and a live band. The groups were not only judged on taste, but presentation as well. The judges included, Dr. Caruso and Steven Herren, as well as other faculty and administration. At half time of the spring game, Delta Zeta sorority was announced as the 1st Annual Rib Cook-Off winners!

homecoming 2004

Back the Cats!

From float building to the banner contest, from the parade to Midnight Madness, from the powder puff game to the Catamount Cup...

YAMAHA

And the Queen is...

1. 2004 Homecoming Court. Back Row: Brian Leake, Justin Davis, James Gregory, and JakeSetzer. Front Row: Kelly Taylor, Lindsey Morgan, Ashleigh Mullikin and Ering Lee. Not Pictured: BrittanyBennefield. 2. The 2003 Homecoming Queen, Keisha Henson, crowns Kelly Taylor Western Carolina's 2004 Homecoming Queen. 3.On November 23, 2004 the Western Carolinaa student body crowned Jake Setzer and Kelly Taylor, both sponsored by Alpha Chi Omega sorority, as homecoming queen and king.

Wilson

Top Left: Junior Linden Ryan, sophomores Jacob Hannah and Buck Freeman, and senior Jarrett Wishon anxiously watch each play during the upset victory that Western pulled against Appalachian State on November 13, 2005. Top Right: Senior wide receiver T. Alford makes a spectacular play on a loose ball while pushing the Catamounts toward victory. Bottom Left: The stands were filled with purple and gold as one of the largest crowds in the history of E.J. Whitmire stadium came in to Cullowhee to watch the Battle of the Jug. Bottom right: The swarming Catamount defense puts an end to an Appalachian State drive.

6-0 6-3 9-3 9-6 9-13 16-13 16-20 16-27 22-27

Darius Fudge
30-27

Battle of the Old Mountain Jug

Victory Has Never Tasted So Good

WESTERN CAROLINA 30, APPALACHIAN STATE 27

In the mid 1980's Sports Illustrated titled the Western Carolina versus Appalachian State football game, "the best rivalry that you've never heard of." Western Carolina and Appalachian State began competing against each other in 1932, and Appalachian State took the first thirteen wins. After a tremendous upset by Western Carolina in 1975 where Appalachian State was predicted by Asheville Citizen Times to "win by the weather," (predicting the weather to be 62 degrees), Western pulled off the upset with a 20-11 win. This game added to the fifth game of Western's longest winning streak in the history of the rivalry. In 1976 the jug was created by sports information directors at both schools and promoted by both of the student government associations. The trophy of the "new" rivalry was a representation of an old moonshine jug, which was used by bootleggers in the western North Carolina mountains at one time. The logo of each school was placed on each side of the jug, where the logos still remain today.

However, this year's victory in the "Battle of the Jug" is one that will never be forgotten. Like most meetings between these two teams, the season record never really mattered. The Catamounts were struggling this year with a 3-6 record, while the Mountaineers were hoping to make it to the playoffs. At the beginning of the fourth quarter, Western was down only four points. After being backed up on our own two yard line there was a short completion before sophomore Darius Fudge broke through the Appalachian defense on a 51 yard run up the middle. The Catamounts continued down the field before sophomore quarterback, Bennet Swygert, completed the drive with a six yard touchdown pass to red-shirt freshman Eddie Cohen.

ASU answered and then intercepted a pass by Swygert to score again, giving the Mountaineers a 27-16 lead with only 5:02 left to be played in the game. After penalties were given to the Mountaineers for accessive celebration after storming the field, Western started another drive near midfield. Swygert was injured on the first play which allowed junior Justin Clark to make his appearance known. 53 yards later, the Catamounts were in the endzone. After failing an attempt for the two point conversion, Western's defense came on the field trailing App State 27-22. After a few dropped kicks and a fumble, Western found itself with the ball again to set up the game winning pass from Clark to senior Michael Reeder. This was the year that the jug stayed here!

MOUNTAIN
55

46

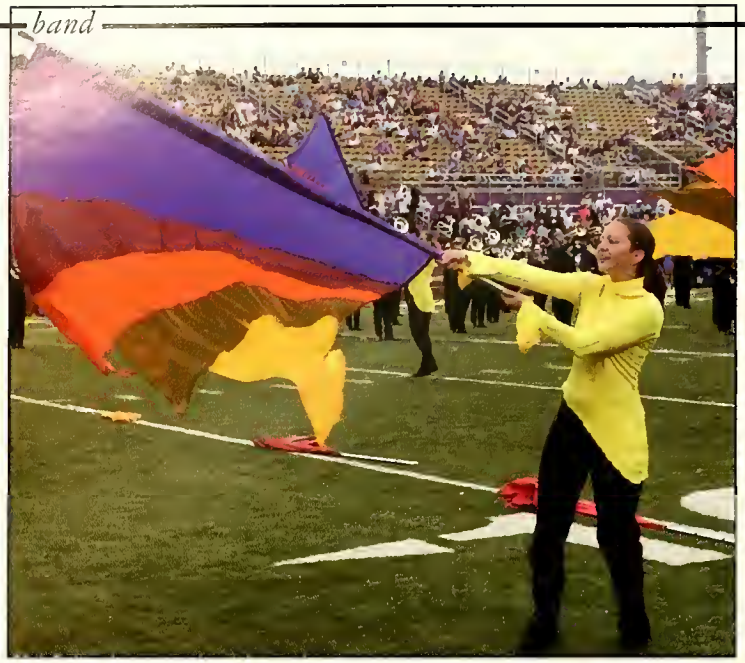
Pride

Performing a crowd-pleasing medley of up-tempo pop and rhythm-and-blues tunes, the band has been tagged "the world's largest funk band," with electric guitars, singers and other musical elements.

2004 Marching Band

The Pride of the Mountains

Known as one of the most exciting, innovative and exhilirating bands in the Southeast, Western Carolina's Pride of the Mountains Marching Band performs during half time of every home football, as well as post game shows. The 308 person strong band also does exhibitions at different high school band events each fall. The Pride of the Mountains Marching Band does not consist of solely music majors, having 60% non-music majors. The marching band creates unique and individual shows each season that always excites the crowd. After family weekend this fall it seemed as if the crowd was the loudest after the band played its finale. The Marching Catamounts show is not all playing and marching either. There are solo's between the instruments, crazy and amusing drum lines, quick line changes and a featured solos, sung by marching band members that have much enthusiasm and energy! The 2004 production by the Pride of the Mountains was entitled "Bring on the Heat" and brought lively Catamount fans to their feet each time the band rushed the field for their performance.



WESTERN

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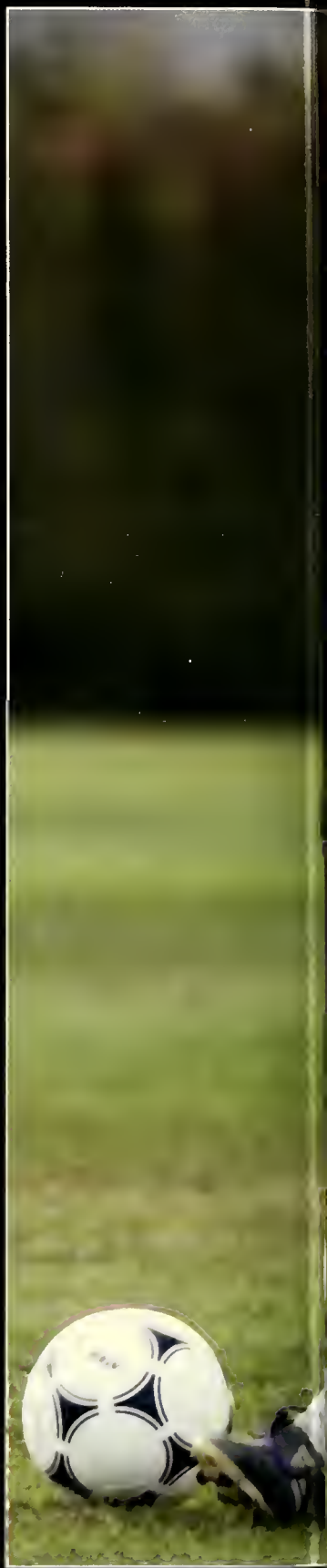

Dedication

CROSS COUNTRY

. Freshmen Kerrie Savery and Elise Wallace battle past two runners from Georgia in he final stretch towards the finish line. 2. Western dominates over Furman cross ountry runners as freshman Joseph Hampton and Junior Daryl Fields help out the st place finish of the men's team with strong finishes in the men's 5k (3.1 miles) vent. Fields crossed the finish line with a time of 17:50 with Hampton only three econds behind him, finishing 35th and 36th over all. Junior Adam Puett finished rst place overall in the 19th Annual WCU/Papa's Pizza College Invitational with a me of 15:39. 3. Sophomore Mark Riley pushed past a Furman competitor while oing down the home stretch in the WCU/Papa's Pizza College Invitational. Riley nished 24th overall in this meet with a time of 17:15. 4. Another top finisher for Western, freshman Fredrick Cameron comes in fourth place over all with a time of 6:14 after rolling by a Furman competitor. 5. Senior Tonya Edmonds beats freshmen eammate Elizabeth Prevette across the finish line by a split second, finishing with mes of 12:35 and 12:36, respectively in the two mile run. 6. Warming up before ne meet begins, Western competitors run strides.

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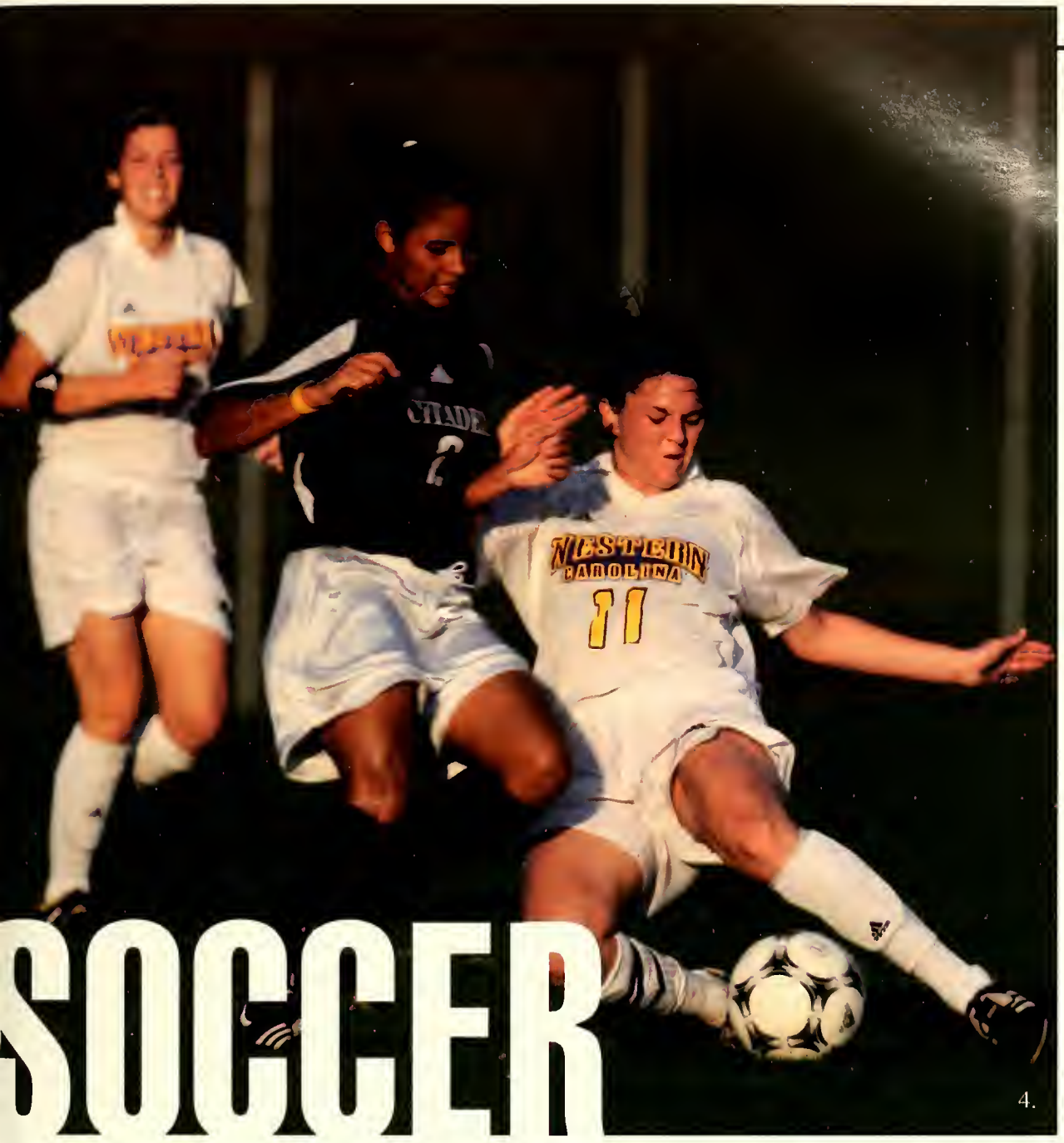
1. Junior Natalie Turgeon plants her foot before making an attempt at a game winning goal! 2. Sophomore goalie Alesha Row puts an end to a goal attempt by Furman. This was one of her five saves during the tough 3-2 loss. 3. Western's leading scorer, sophomore Stephanie Svoboda dribbles through a tight UNGAsheville defense. The Catamounts led the Bulldogs on shots 11-9; however, the Bulldogs came out on top 3-0. Svovoda led Western's shot attempts along with junior Casey Davis with three goal shots each. 4. On October 29, 2004, Western dominated The Citadel with a killer 8-1 win! The score was brought to 4-0 after Junior Casey Davis scored her single goal for the night. Davis was a major contribution to the Cats offense throughout the season, shown here making a sliding kick around The Citadel's defense. 5. Junior Megan Chambers heads the ball to continue a Western drive down field. Western shutout Wofford on a lone goal scored by junior Natalie Turgeon midway through the second half. 6. Freshmam Heather Dittmer slides a kick past a Wofford opponent to keep up Western's momentum. The win over Wofford helped give the Catamounts the eighth seed in the Southern Conference Championships against the number one seeded Spartans of UNGGreensboro. The Spartans scoring drive outpowered Western, ending the season with a 5-10-3 record.

SOCCER



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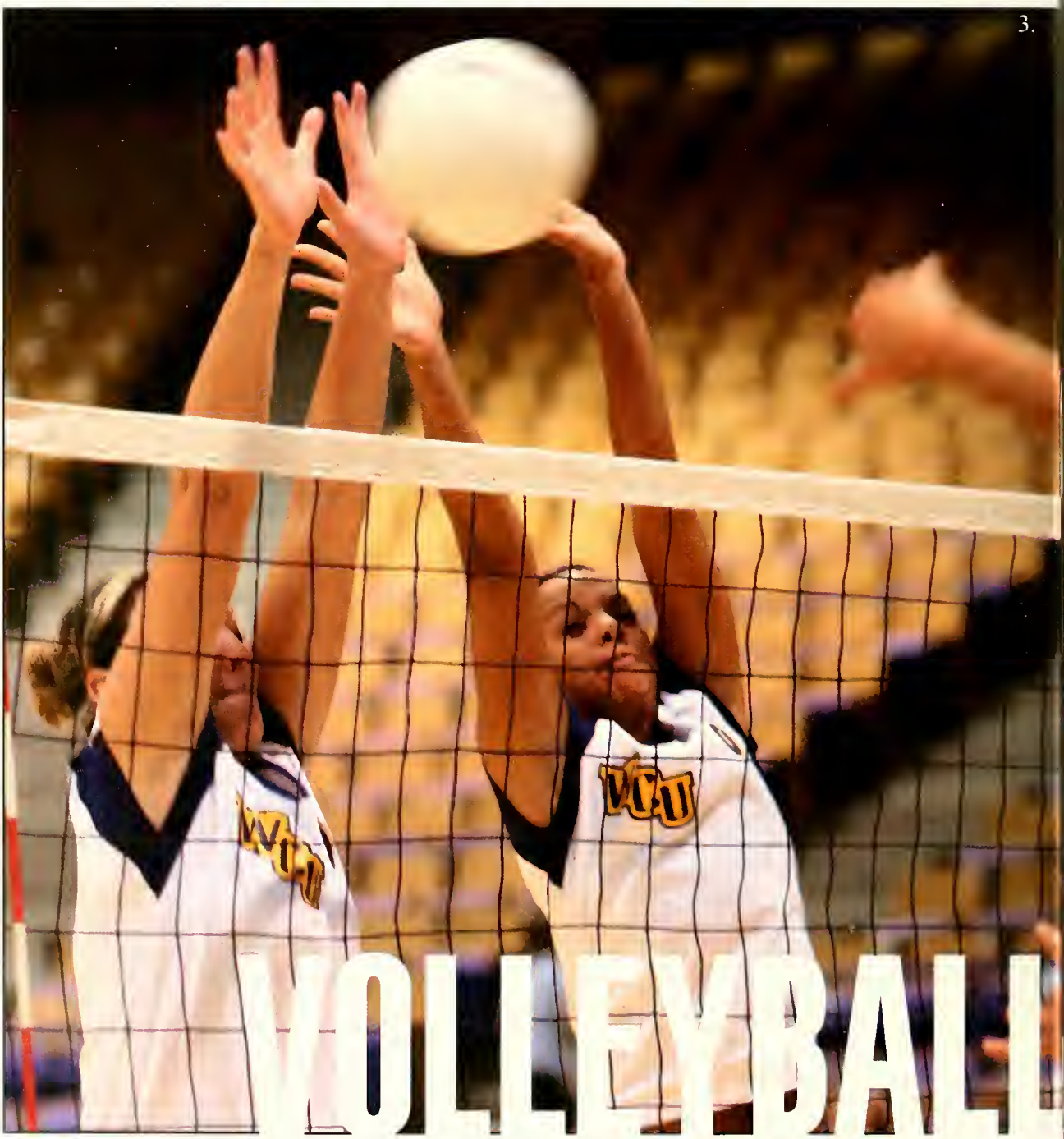

3.

VOLLEYBALL

. Freshman Andrea Smith goes up for the kill against The Citadel on October 10, 004. The Catamounts lost in a tight match, 3-2 to the Bulldogs. 2. Senior Stefanie eters picks up a dig against a hard attack by The Citadel. Peters had a team high ith 15 digs during this match, along with 16 kills. 3. Freshmen Meredith Harmon nd Danielle Spitzer went up for a block against Wofford. This block was one of six atamount blocks against the Terriers on October 12, 2004. The Catamounts swept ie Terriers in straight sets, 3-0. 4. Sophomore Meghan Boyle led the team with 19 ssists in a tough loss, 3-0, to Coastal Carolina on October 17, 2004. Boyle also led ie Catamounts in the Southern Conference Championships in the first round loss to eorgia Southern with 12 assists. This match ended their season with a 12-16 overall ecord. 5. Freshman Melissa Parana led the Catamounts against the Chanticleers ith 11 kills and three solo blocks in the losing effort. Parana also had a service ace. his was Coastal Carolina's first win against the Catamount in the past five attempts.

GOLF

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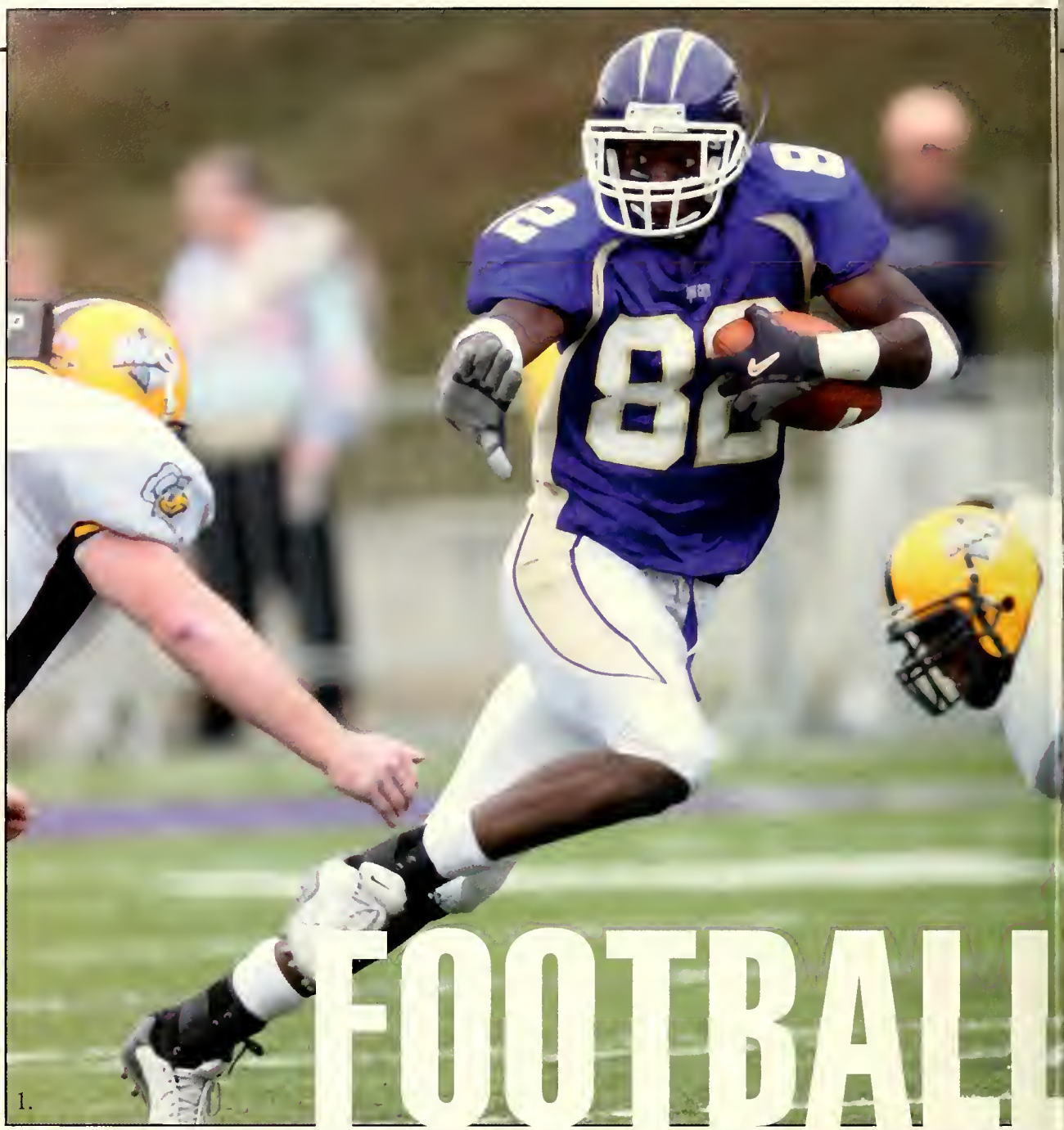
1. Sophomore Alex Arrigo attempts a chip shot at the Country Club of Sapphire Valley on October 17, 2004. 2. It's automatic! Senior Chase Kress puts the ball into the hall at the Country Club of Sapphire Valley in late fall. 3. Junior Keith Tyburski followed his long drive down the range during a match at the Country Club of Sapphire Valley. Tyburski shot his career low of 68 during this round and leaves him ranked fifth (tied) on the WCU all-time, 18-hole list. 4. Sophomore Tripp Morrow eyed his shot during a golf match at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Morrow won Western's Shoot-Out at Wild Wing by five strokes, carding a 140. This was the fourth-lowest, 36-hole total in WCU history — to become just the ninth Catamount to win an individual title as Western Carolina also won the team championship.

1. Freshman Lucinda Davies, helps out the Catamount golf team by shaving two strokes off of her first day scores. The Catamounts placed 7th at the Wildcat Invitational on October 2, 2004 held at the University Club of Kentucky. 2. Freshman Jessica Jackson places the ball in just the right spot in order to have the perfect put. 3. Sophomore Bianca Melone sinks a put to continue to steady Western's scores. Melone was a consistent middle ground for the Lady Cats, bringing in solid scores during each match. 4. Junior Ashley Hovda led Western at the Lady Pirate Fall Invitational in Greenville, North Carolina putting up a score of 148 after firing back to back rounds of 74.

GOLF



FOOTBALL

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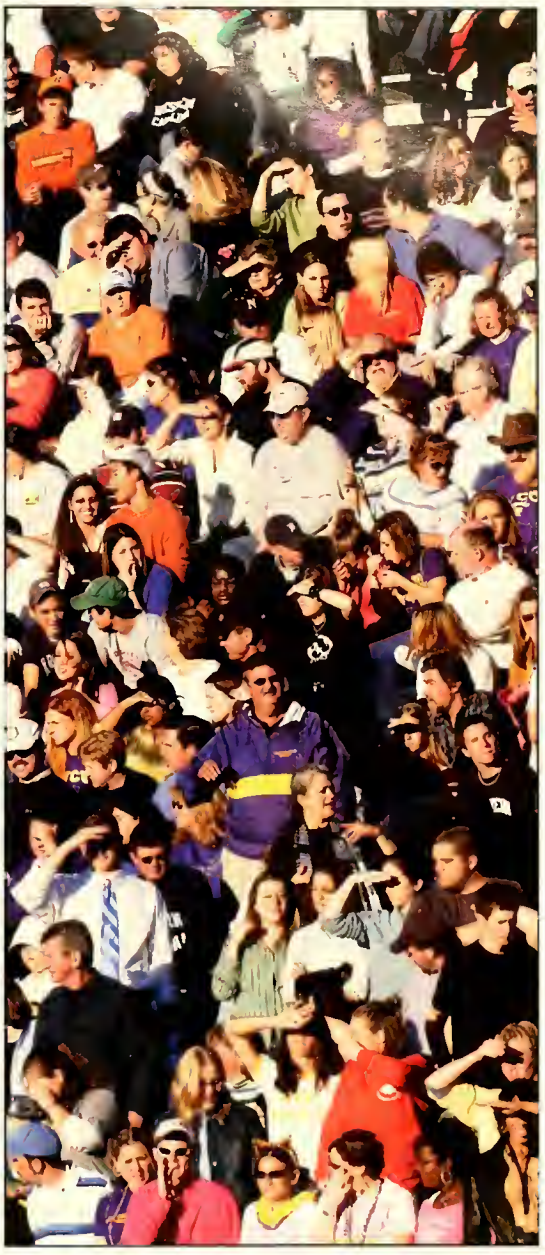


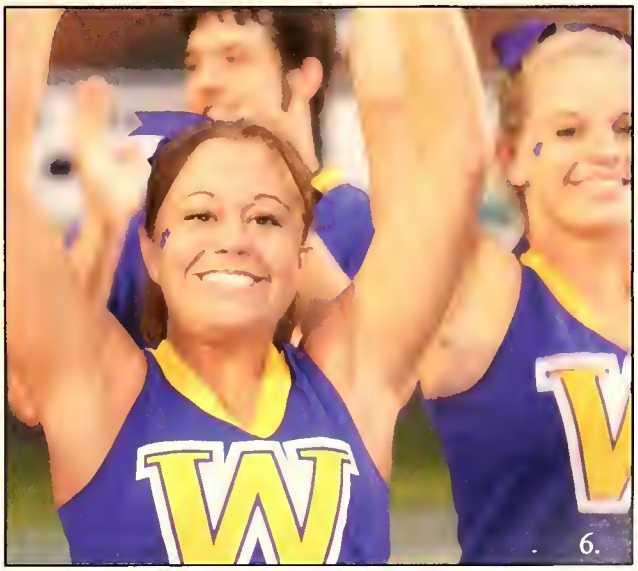
1. Sophomore Calvin Guinyard, along with senior Michael Reeder and sophomore Justin Clark helped Western Carolina roll out 504 yards of total offense in a close loss as UT-Chattanooga holds on to defeat the Catamounts 27-24 during the 2004 Homecoming game. Guinyard caught six passes, adding up 154 yards in this game. 2. Sophomore Nicholas Wishart rushed for 92 yards and three touchdowns as Western defeated Nicholls State 28-7 on Septemer 11, 2004. Wishart broke a 30-yard run off the left side of the line to give the Catamounts a 7-0 lead. 3. Senior Michael Reeder reaches for a short pass. 4. Holding the ball tightly, a strong Catamount begins his attempt to break away from a Moc defensiveman. 5. Sophomore Darius Judge breaks through a tight Appalachian State defensive line in an upsetting, 30-27 win against the Mountaineers. 6. Current studnets and Catamount alumni block the sun while watching Western take on University of Tennessee at Chattanooga during the 2004 Homecoming game.

Russell Hemby

THE CATS
THE CATS
17
FOCUS

1. Although the crowd was already excited, junior Callie Utz pumps up the Western fans during a timeout called in overtime by Georgia Southern during the women's Southern Conference championship game. 2. "And here come your Catamounts!" was a familiar phrase heard during football season at E.J. Whitmire Stadium. The cheerleaders proceeded the football team doing back handsprings and back tucks as they ran out of the tunnel, while the Pride of the Mountains marching band blared the fight song! "Gooooo Cats!" 3. "W-E-S-T-E-R-N!" The cheerleaders performed many exciting stunts and lifts for the fans at home basketball games. The stunts performed during games were only practices for national competition that the Western Carolina cheerleaders competed in during April 2005 in Daytona Beach, Florida. 4. Junior Krysta Buchanan and the rest of the Catamount cheerleaders get the crowd on their feet as the Western football team drives toward a goal during the 2004 season. 6. Sophomore Kelly Sikes keeps a continuous grin on her face during a home football game against Gardner Webb.

CHEERLEADING



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DANCE TEAM

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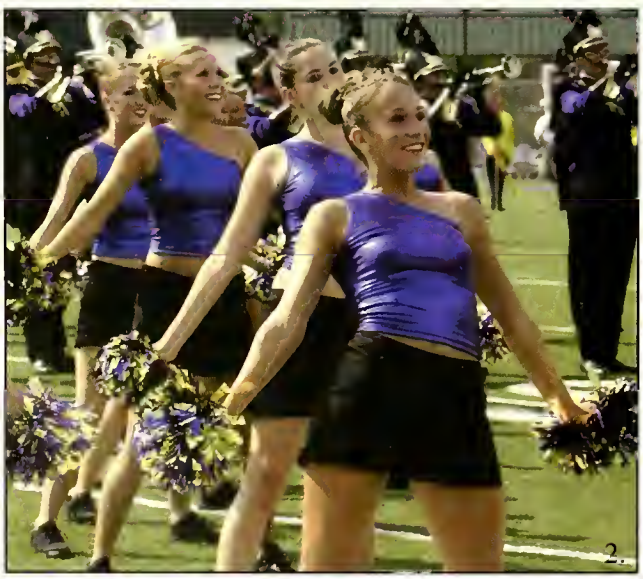

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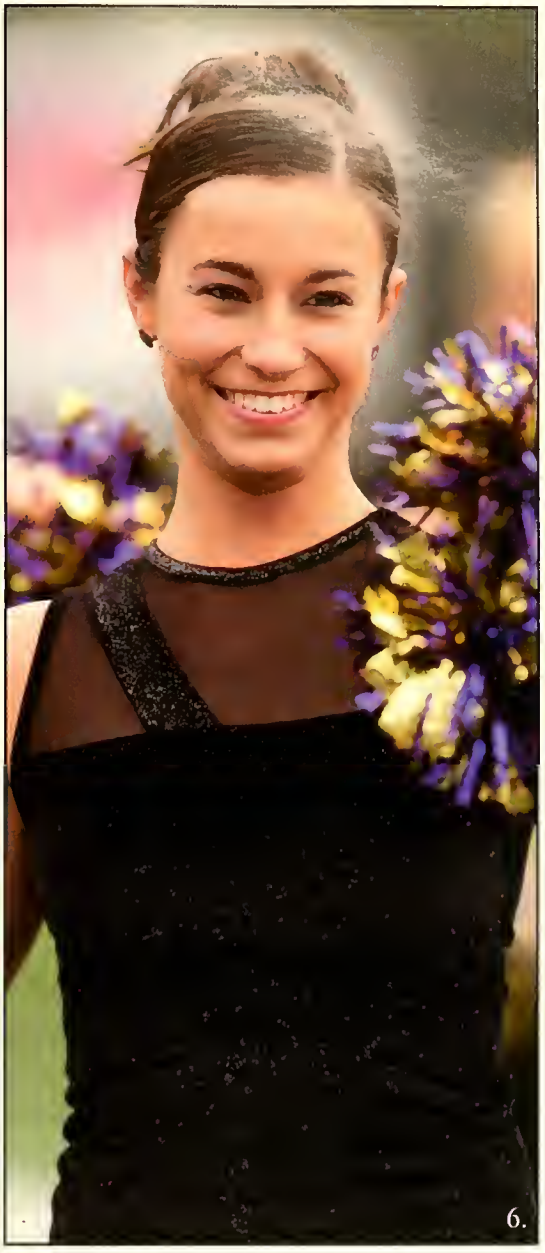

. The 2005 Dance Team brings a little spirit to the home crowd during a Western Carolina basketball game. The Dance Team performed during girls and guys home basketball games. 2. Senior captain Tara Mull smiles at the crowd during a football game. "The Dance Team has been a four year experience full of hard work, friendships, laughter, sweat, tears and memories that take up a huge chunk of my heart which can never be replaced or forgotten," recalled Mull. 3. Ending a routine during a timeout during a basketball game, The dance team rotated with the Western cheerleaders during timeouts and halftimes to entertain the fans. 4/5. The Catamount dancers delight a home crowd during football season. The dance team combined many different styles during their routines to try and please all audiences. Senior Megan Hutchings commented, "We combined the styles of so many dancers with different backgrounds into our own style as a team. In the process we all became friends that will always keep in touch far after our time to dance is over. I am blessed to have had this experience in my life." 6. Junior co-captain Kristin Davis keeps the energy soaring during a routine at a Western football game.

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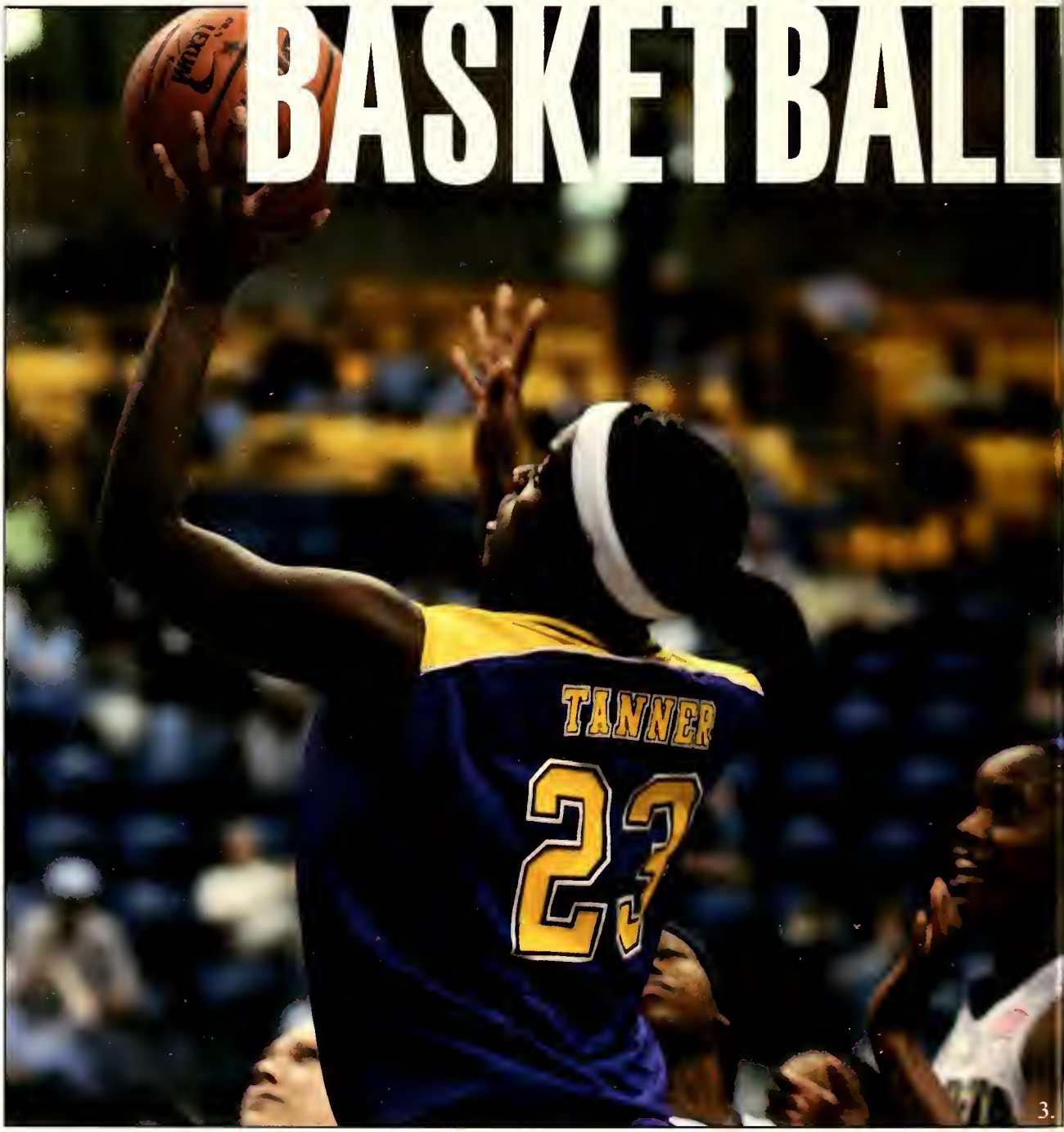
BASKETBALL



3.

1. Freshman center, Jessika Johnson earned her spot on the team as she constantly proved herself this season. Johnson contributed 13 points and five rebounds in her first career start as a Catamount against Davidson in a 74-56 win on December 20, 2004. 2. Junior guard, Teyawna Hardy shoots a ten foot jump shot over a Mountaineer competitor. Hardy contributed 10 points in a tough 71-68 loss to Appalachian State on December 6, 2004. 3. Senior Lori Tanner makes part of her contribution on a quick jump shot during the Southern Conference championship win against Georgia Southern. Tanner scored 16 points before fouling out in regulation play. Aggression and determination demonstrated by Tanner allowed her to join fellow senior teammate Jennifer Gardner on the first team all Southern Conference All-Tournament team. 4/5. "I've learned very quickly that Western Carolina is a great place to be and I'm very thankful for this opportunity," announched first year head coach Kellie Harper at a pre-season press conference. Harper came into Western after being an assistant coach at Chattanooga. Her intensity and knowledge of the game, along with a strong relationship with each of her players, delivered a successful women's basketball season. The Lady Catamounts ended their season with a 19-14 record. 6. Western Carolina dominated High Point University in an early seaon win, 95-85 on December 1, 2004. Senior guard Shaketia Barnes sinks a two point basket to help in the victory.

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1. Freshman Ashley Pellom cuts her peice of the net down after beating Georgia Southern in the 2005 Southern Conference championship game in double overtime, 97-95. 2. Freshman Ashley Pellom pulls a jumper and draws a foul over a tight Georgia Southern defense. 3. Six foot senior forward, Sigita Malaraite and senior guard Lori Tanner have an emotional moment as the taste of victory is felt all around. Celebration now began as the Catamounts would wait to see who they would play in the NCAA tournament. 4. Happiness and excitement would be an understatement for these two seniors, Jennifer Gardner and Ki-Ki Glass. Both Gardner and Glass broke tournament records during this upset win. Gardner set a tournament record of 45 points while Glass broke the record for assists in a single tournament with 28 after she received a personal record 14 in the championship game against Georgia Southern. 5. It was a team effort and it was well deserved. This team pulled together through out the season to make big wins happen and celebration was endless as Western earned the title "2005 Southern Conference Tournament Champions!"

"We played like **warriors** today and did what we had to do to **win** the game..."
-Kellie Harper

SOCON TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS

CATAMOUNTS WIN!

WESTERN CAROLINA 97, GEORGIA SOUTHERN 95

1. Freshman Chevon Keith drives through two defensive competitors of University of Tennessee on her way to the basket. Keith helped lead Western in the effort against Tennessee with fellow diaper dandy Monique Dawson. Both freshmen had nine points in the 94-43 loss to Tennessee on March 21, 2005 at Thompson Boiling Arena in the first round of the 64 team championship bracket. 2. Senior Jennifer Gardner puts up a shot against a tough man to man defense that was shown by Tennessee. Tennessee's tough defense held Gardner, a first team all So-Con player to only four points during her last game as a Catamount. 3. It's going through the motions. The Catamount run through plays during a practice before the big game at Thompson Boiling Arena. 4. Senior Shaketia Barnes gives Western an early one point advantage at the 19:02 mark in the first half draining an 18-footer over the hands of a Volunteer. 5. Senior Ki-Ki Glass pushes her way to the basket drawing a foul on the Tennesse defense. Glass was two for two from the line during her final game.

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"They came at us. They competed **hard**."
-Pat Summitt
(on Western Carolina's attempt to knock off 1 seed U.T.)

5.

A LIFETIME OF UNFORGETTABLE MEMRORIES

SENSATIONAL!

Senior Jennifer Gardner and Coach Kellie Harper

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1. Celebration is so sweet! Senior Jennifer Gardner celebrates with first season head coach, Kellie Harper. Garder led her teaam to the Southern Conference Championship breaking numerous records for a SoCon tournment game. Gardner set SoCon tournament records for points in a game (45), points in a tournament (106), field goals in a tournament (33), free throws in a tournament (37), free throw attempts in a tournament (46) and rebounds in a tournament (43). 2. A lifetime of memories. University of Tennesse head coach, Pat Summitt speaks to Coach Harper prior to the game in Knoxville on Sunday, March 21. Western Carolina Coach Kellie Harper led the Volunteers to back to back National titles in the mid-90's. 3. Coach Kellie Harper watches with intensity as her lady Catamounts prepare to battle the number one seeded University of Tennessee Volunteerss. 4. Senior Jennifer Gardner runs through the crowd at the pre-game pep rally held at the host hotel for the tournament in Knoxville.

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1. Junior David Berghoefer picked up his eigth double-double of the season on February 26, 2005 against the UNGGreensboro Spartans. Berghoefer scored 16 points and had 14 rebounds. Unfortunately, the tremendous play by Berghoefer did not carry Western through with a win. The Catamount seniors lost their last home game at the Ramsey Center 79-76. 2. Senior Terrence Woodyard goes up for a jump shot against UNGAsheville on December 4, 2004. The Catamounts lost the 5th annual Mountain Hoops Classic at the Asheville Civic Center 85-71. 3. Senior Rans Brempong scored a career high of 22 points in a 94-66 win over Montreat on November 29, 2004. Brempong also added four blocked shots and four rebounds.

BASKETBALL

WESTERN
3

1. Western Carolina was up by three with 16:31 left to be played in the second half. Senior Rans Brempong made a spectacular block on the defensive end that led to a fast break dunk by junior Corey Muirhead that sparked a quick 10-0 run by the Catamounts. 2. Sophomore Kyle Greathouse drives to the basket and puts up a two point shot to help the Catamounts defeat Wofford 80-75 on January 22, 2005. 3. Coach Steve Shurina intensely pumps up his players on the court in a tight game against UNGGreensboro at the Ramsey Center on February 26, 2005. The Catamounts lost to the Spartans 79-76. 4. Freshman Negus McKenna helps Western on a 17-6 run, contributing seven points of the 17 quick points against UNG Greensboro on senior night. McKenna finished this game with a career high of 21points.

TENNIS

Freshman Trish Hanson rallies for her fist career Southern Conference win in a atch against Elon. 2. Senior Kristin Cotton scored wins in both singles and doubles mpetition on Saturday, April 9 in a match against Elon. Although the Catamounts lowed Elon the win, 5-2, Cotton picked up the pair of wins for the team. 3. Junior atherine Ptak warms up before a home match against Georgia Southern. 4. Freshman shley Harris earned one of Western's two points at Appalachian State Saturday, pril 17.

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1. Senior Leslie Martin edged out her competitors in the 800 meter run to claim th first place title for the third consecutive season in the Southern Conferen Tournament. The SoCon Track and Field Championships was held at the Weste new track and field complex on April 30, 2005. 2. Male Track Performer of the ye clears the hurdles in the 110-meter event at the Southern Conference Championship 3. Western's female 4x400 team brought home the championship in the relay even Members of the team (left to right): Raquel Ramseur, Jennifer Spivey, Leslie Mart and Asia Davis. 4. Western Carolina's men's team brought up the runner up trophy the Southern Conference Championships. 5. Freshman Mashay McGriff clears th 100 meter hurdles. 6. Senior Wes Willoughby cleared the 4.75 meters to win th men's pole vault on the first day of competition.

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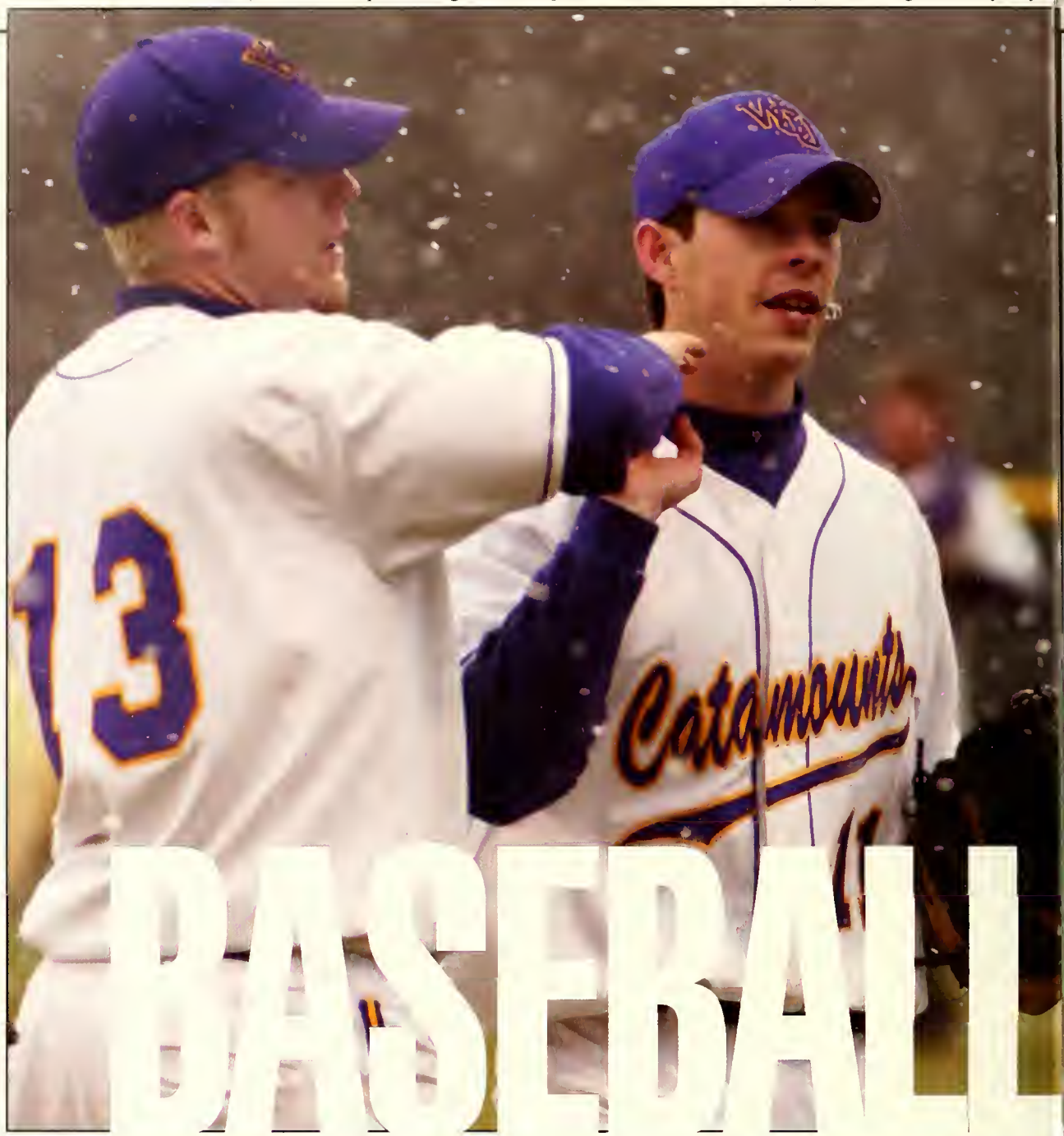
TRACK & FIELD

1. Brittany Whittaker clears the bar winning the high jump competition for Western. 2. Freshman David Bowles becomes the javelin champion at the Southern Conference Championship held at Western on April 30. 3. Michael Malone battles past his opponents coming down the stretch in the 100 meter dash. 4. James Gregory finished out the 4x100 relay for the Catamounts, extending the lead over rival Appalachian State. The Western Carolina women finished in third place in the championship with 155 points behind Appalachian State and Georgia Southern, respectedly. The men finished in second place with 250.5 points, just behing Appalachian State.

Third baseman Nate Hall (13) warms up for the game with pitcher Caleb McConnel (11) on a fridged snowy day.



BASEBALL

Junior, Tim Hallam is greeted with high fives and cheers by his fellow Catamounts, after scoring a run for the team.

The Catamounts ended their 2004-2005 season with a record of 33-23. Finishing their Southern Conference play 1/2 games out of second place. A season highlight came early in the year when they bested the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets who were ranked number one in the country. Seeded thrid going into the Southern Conference Tournament the Catamounts made quick work of the Citadel and faced Georia Southern in the second round. The Catamounts fell to second seeded Ga. Southern and faced top ranked College of Charleston the following night. C of C scored 7 runs in the first inning and traded 4 runs through the rest of the game defeating the Catamounts 11-4. Seven different Catamounts had one hit each, including the only two seniors in the WCU offensive lineup, Davis and Greenwood. Freshman Greg Holland (2-3) suffered the loss. Despite allowing the seven runs in the first, he only allowed six hits and seven runs.

One of the principle offseason highlights came when Catamount Jared Greenwood signed with the MLB New York Yankees. Greenwood had an excellent season in 2004, leading the Southern Conference and ranking sixth nationally in home runs (21 total/0.36 per game). For that, he was recognized with numerous preseason honors prior to the 2005 season.

Relaxation

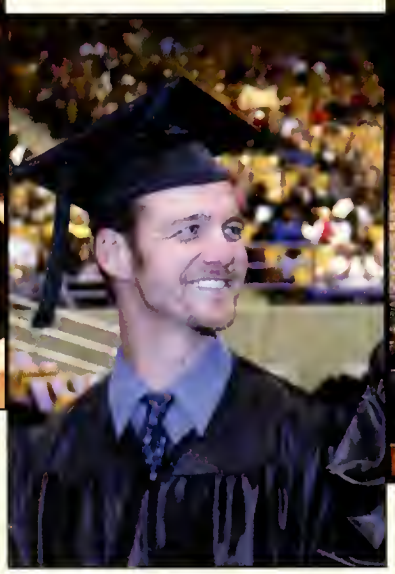
Native

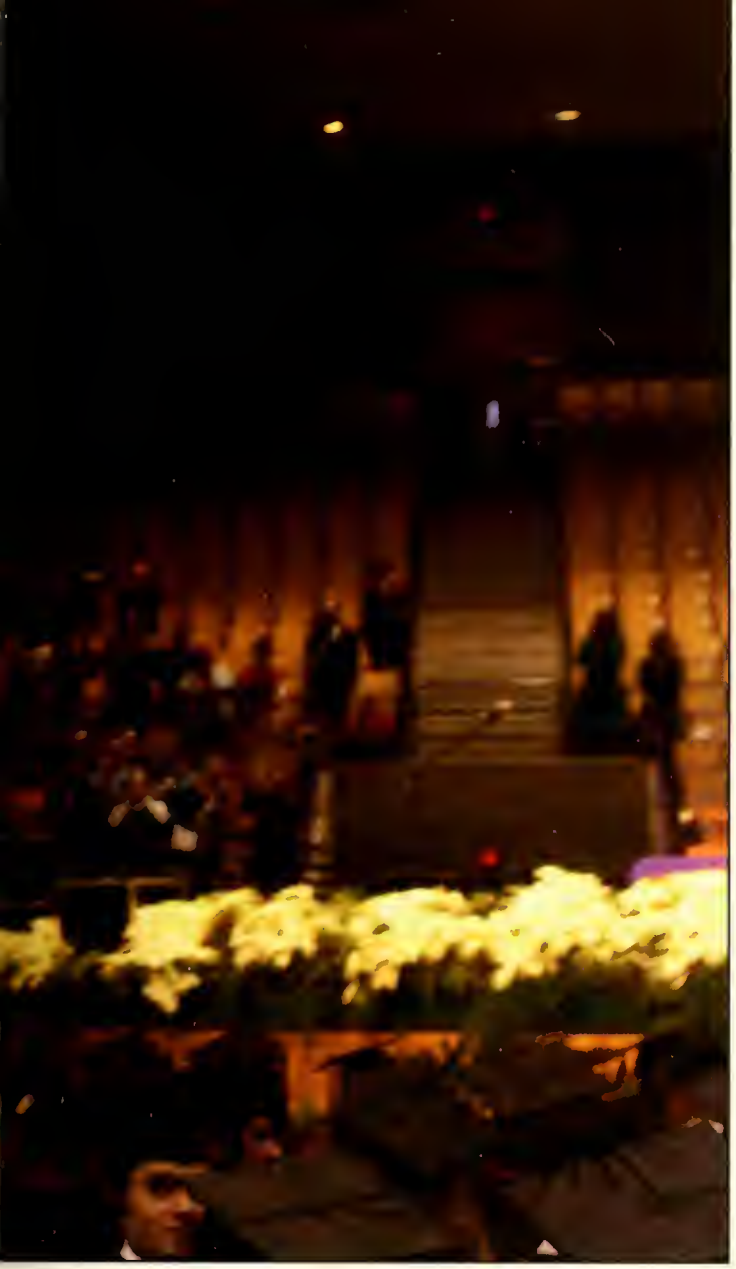
This year's Spring Fling Luau on April 27, gave students a chance to relax and savor some food, fun, and games before final exams week. Entertainment was provided by "Justincase", a local band out of Charlotte, battle of the bands winner Melicious State, and Cullowhee Idol winners. Also, yard toys, games and delicious treats were the order of the afternoon on the lawn of the University Center. The event was sponered by Last Minute Productions, University Center, SGA, and RSA.

Spring Fling Luau

SOCON

Success





The Grand Finale

Countless memories of the past four years at Western Carolina University were reminisced as December's graduating class of 2004 proceeded into the Ramsey Activity Center on December 18, 2004 at 2pm. For many, graduation was an event that was anticpated for months and years before hand. For others, the college years had passed in a blink of an eye and the reality of being in the real world was not as exciting as their past college days had been. Sitting at graduation was like a daydream for some and the thought of most graduates was, "What now?" The decision of what to do with their hard earned degree baffled the minds of many who had not settled for a job or applied to any post-graduate programs.

Of course there were questions, but as this day began, worries dissappeared and were exchaned for the elation and exitation of the present moment. Hats were decorated with crazy slogans and sparkly glitter and smiles were from ear to ear. Parents and family were in attendance and screams were yelled as the little boy of little girl of each joyous family walked across the stage!

WCU
WCU
WCU

WCU
WCU

Accomplishment

Weebles
TRACTOR
TRACTOR

Reflection

Only the Beginning

Ms. Lauren Riggan, Editor in Chief

It was by a twist of fate (and academia) that Lauren was not here to write the page that is most deservedly her's. There has not been a single moment, since the inception of our little idea, that she has not concerned herself with every possible aspect of the production of this book. As most of you know, this is the reinstatement of The Catamount, returning after a three year hiatus. The hoops, through which we have had to jump, the distances over which we have traveled, and the challenges we have faced could not have been overcome without her leadership and dedication. It has always been our hope to produce something in accordance with the admiration and love that we have for this university and there is no other who more devoutly personifies our feelings than Lauren Riggan. On a very personal note; Lauren, you are my best friend, and I love you for everything that you are and everything that you will become. Perhaps that is why it is so hard for me to write this, knowing that I can never do justice to your hard work. I may never be able to adequately "write you back" but I hope you know just how much you mean to me.

From the bottom of all our hearts, Thank You.